Lee W. Arnold
Field Notes

April 13, 1938 - May 7, 1938

Arnold
1938

Thu 13, Catalina Harbor, Catalina Island, Calif.

We left San Diego Yacht Club at 5 P.M. yesterday. It was cloudy and the captain claimed we would probably meet with some foul weather - and from all appearances we did. We traveled all night but because of wind and heavy seas we could not make over two or three knots an hour. After a very eventful trip — including several side trips from cabin to rail we arrived in Catalina harbor at three o'clock. We set out 60 mouse traps, 6 squirrel traps and four sets of steel traps before dark. There was quite some sign of Citellus and Urocyon (?). The latter was in the form of dried & fresh feces found on the trails. The trap line ran from the waters edge about 400 yards from the east end of the cove up the slope and along the deepest canyon for about 350 yards. The habitat of the lower sets consisted mainly of grass and low herbaceous plants while those farther up in the mouth of the canyon consisted of chaparral — Rus, Lemonade Berry Bush + Greesewood predominating. The steel traps set for Citellus were in fresh holes on the grassy bottom land. The holes were freshly "renovated" — perhaps they are just coming out of aestivation.

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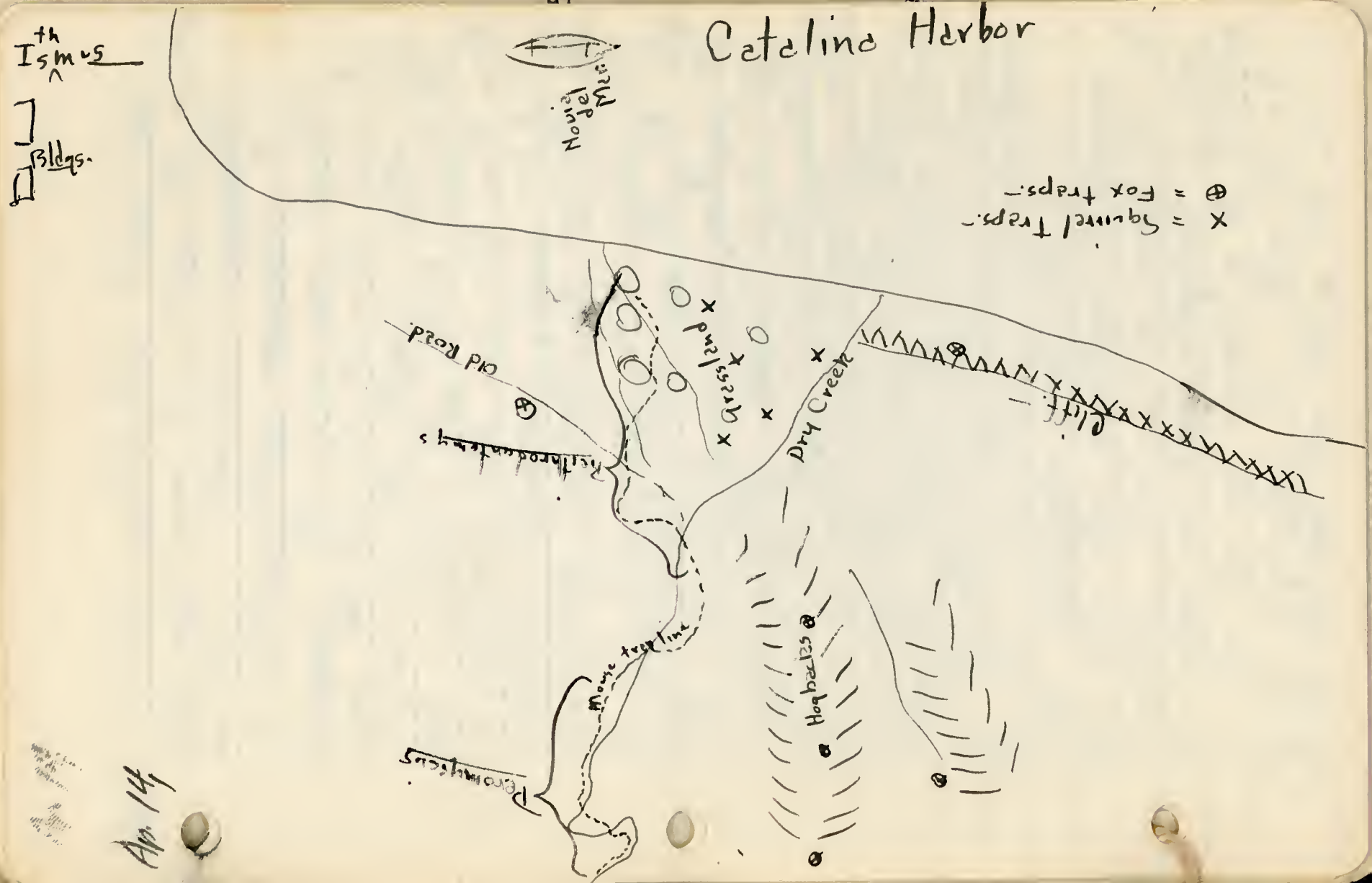
Catalina Harbor, Catalina Is., Calif.

It would be interesting to see if they correspond with the mainland species. As for birds - we saw or heard: Spotted Towhees, Mockingbirds, Valley Quail, Burrowing Owl, Allen Hummingbird (prob. nesting), Surf Scoter, Calif. Pelican, Western gulls. Probably tomorrow we will be able to get better dope on them.

Fip. 14, Today we went around to our traps before breakfast. In the traps on the grassy flat we caught two Reithrodontomys. About 200 yards north we found three Peromyscus maniculatus. For the most part they were in and near cactus thickets. We caught one Urocyon in one of the steel trap sets on the ridge. Evidentally most of the droppings we have found around here are of fox. Early in the morning we caught a ♂ ground squirrel in one of the lower sets. Later in the morning we found a ♀ in the same trap. - Probably they were mates inasmuch as they were both in breeding condition. During the morning I put up the skins - while doing so Walker & I attempted to take some pelican pictures. He caught a sheephead which we used for bait. The vegitation of the island is in a "mid spring" condition. The grass is maturing rapidly and the late spring and early summer flowers are commencing to bloom. The wind has died down somewhat today but according to

Ap. 14, the captain ~~it~~ will probably be blowing in the morning. Birds seen today include: Immature Bald Eagle; Spotted Towhee; Calif. Gull; Herring Gull; Brown Pelican; Burrowing Owl (in trap), Raven; Bewick Wren; Valley Quail; Mocking-bird; Allen Hummer; Chipping Sparrow; Sparrow Hawk; The others of the party collected several birds — entries of which can be found in respective notes. The following page has a map of the north shore of Catalina Harbor ~~and~~ showing the direction and approx. spacing of the traps. We have collected a specimen of every type of mammal native to the island. The foxes seem to be very abundant on this portion of the island — much sign (feces) has been found. For the most part this is on the "hogback" ridges running parallel to the canyons. The abundance of foxes probably has a lot to do with the scarcity of small mammals near here. Many places where Peromyscus and Reithrodontomys should under ordinary circumstances be found are quite barren.

Catalina Harbor



Ap. 14

Ap. 15, Avalon, Santa Catalina Island, Calif.

Upon going around to our traps this morning we had: 3 Peromyscus maniculatus; 4 Reithrodontomys megalotis; 2 Urocyon. The foxes were caught along the trail up the main ridge to the west of the deepest canyon. One was caught in trap which caught the ♂ yesterday. This was a ♀ with well-developed mammary glands. It had evidentally just had pups recently. The ♂ fox was caught in a single set about 300 yards farther up the hill. They all seem to be in fair pelage. We caught another Citellus in a trap set at the base of a cactus patch. It is an adult ♀ in breeding condition. An interesting thing is the different coloration between the shoulder blades of the ♂ & ♀ specimens we have. The ♂ is as dark as the Northern Calif. douglasii while the ♀ is more like the southern California beechyii. This may be merely true of the three we have collected. Later in the day we caught a ♂ Citellus by the testicles. In pulling it out of the hole the trap tore them off. It

Avalon, Santa Catalina Is., Calif.

Ap. 15, would be interesting to see what will become of the squirrel and what affect his condition will have on his future life. An interesting thing is the distribution of the small mice of this area. We caught nearly all of the Reithrodontomys in the flat land near the bay. From this flat to about 100 yards up the canyon north we did not catch any mice at all. In the last few traps up the canyon we caught all of the Peromyscus. There seems to be very little overlapping of ranges and from all appearances the mice are not as abundant as they might be expected to be. Caught a Herring Gull in the fox set near the bay. After letting the bird free two Ravens came down after the bait. We saw two duck hawks flying over the island. The Ravens were seen chasing the Bald Eagle while the Duck Hawks were seen both being chased by the Ravens and chasing the Eagle. We left the harbor at exactly 12-noon. On the way to Avalon I was impressed by the number of Ravens seen among

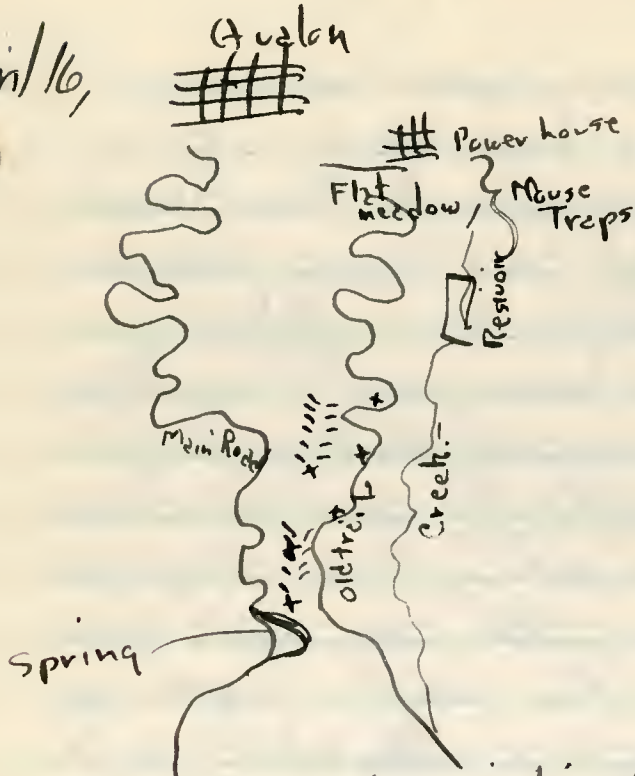
Avalon, Santa Catalina Is., Calif.

April 15 the jagged cliffs. They undoubtedly have a tendency to keep sea birds from nesting on the island. Sea Lions were seen from time to time along the shore. We arrived in Avalon at about three o'clock, locating in a house some three blocks from the pier. As it was late we did not set out traps.

April 16, This morning we went up to the Bird Farm. They have some very interesting birds. Their system of labeling is quite unique. It consists of a piece of glazed tile with the picture of the bird and the name painted on it. It seems to be a very lasting method. At three o'clock Tony, Lew & myself took some steel traps and some mouse traps and went about 2½ miles west of Avalon in one of the company's cars. Here we spread out and set our traps. My steel traps are for the most part on the "hogback" ridges running toward Avalon. - Three, however are lower down the hill along an old bridle path. On the accompanying page can be seen a rough sketch of the locations.

Avalon, Santa Catalina Is., Calif.

April 16,



The creek indicated on the above map is apparently one of the main sources of Avalon's water supply. I believe that most the water comes from some sort of a well at the head of the canyon. Just west of the powerhouse is a low flat bench of earth with grass & weeds growing on it. On close inspection I found a number of distinct small runways in the grass. These are probably Beithro runs — although much of the droppings seen was of larger calibre.

April 17, This morning we did not get to go around to our traps until after ten o'clock inasmuch as Mr. Smith, the ranger,

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Avalon, Santa Catalina Is., Calif.

April 17, could not reach us early enough. Because of this being such a warm day we had trouble with the few mice caught slipping. Walker caught one Reithrodontomys and a ♀ Citellus — the latter was nursing young although it was much smaller than the females collected previously. Green collected one Reithrodontomys and one domestic cat. I had nothing in my steel traps and three harvest mice in my mouse traps. It is interesting to note how ~~few~~ scarce Peromyscus seem to be around here. Many of the places where we set were apparently very good locations for this species. I collected a number of botanical specimens on the way home. This afternoon I went up to Mr. Smith's house to see about trapping some husky tailed rats he had told Walker about. They were apparently house rats for we saw droppings in the attic & garage. I set five traps for them in hopes of proving identification. He told me of someone setting fire to a wood rat nest to smoke out some bees. He had not seen the nest however. He took me to the canyon where

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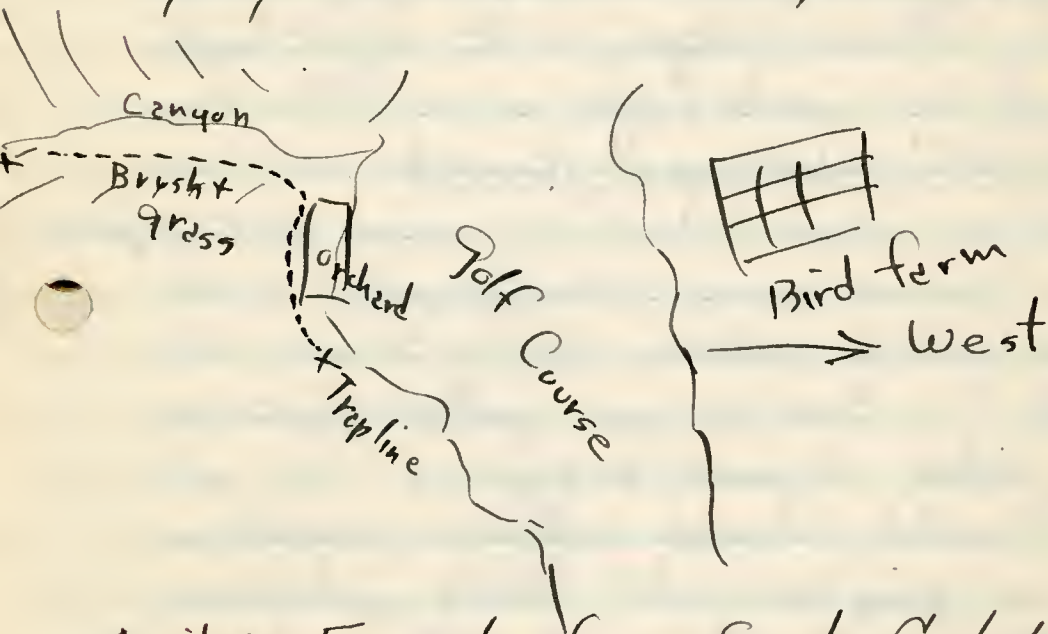
Avalon, Santa Catalina Is, Calif.

April 17, they were supposed to be and dropped me off. I did not see any signs.— Set 54 traps in the grass + brush along the side of the canyon and next to an orchard on the way home. The canyon is directly east of the bird farm — the golf course lying between it + the farm.—



April 18, En route from Santa Catalina to Santa Barbara Island.

I had three Reithrodontomys in my traps this morning. In spite of the abundance of good ~~ha~~ locations the mice were apparently scarce. In several traps, however, I found fresh droppings on the base of the traps although the oats were untouched. Perhaps they do not care for the bait. I saw some 25

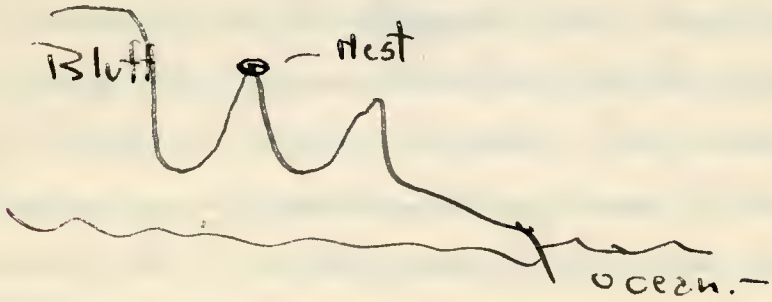
Arnold
1938

Avalon, Santa Catalina Is., Calif.

April 18, doves on the golf course this morning. There were also several dozen quail. I collected a number of plant specimens on the way home. Walker went around to the rangers fox traps this morning with his helper. They got one ♀ halfway between Middle Ranch and Blackjack mountain. He also got a ground squirrel and a Bald Eagle. It is perfect weather today with little or no disturbance in the surface.

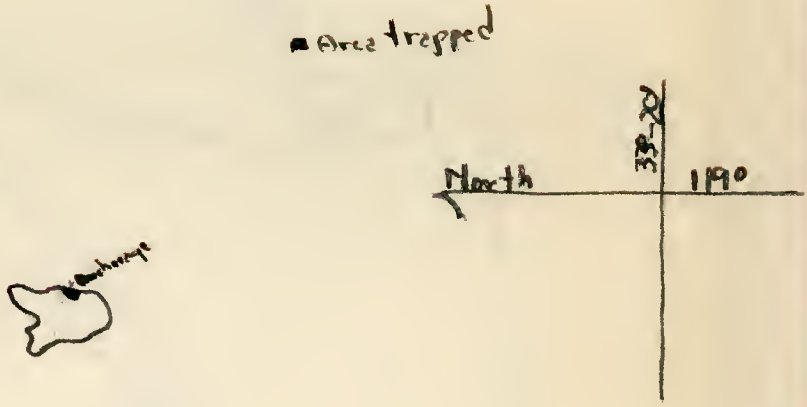
En route from Avalon to Santa Barb. Is.

April 19. This noon we sailed again on the Novia. As we were going around the NW point of the island Walker spotted an eagle setting on a nest at the top of a jagged pinacle. While we were watching another eagle flew to an overlooking bluff. The nest was in an ideal position from the standpoint of protection for the birds



amelf 1938 Santa Barbara Island, Calif.

April 18, We arrived at Santa Barbara Is. at three o'clock. Promptly went ashore to set mouse traps. Set a line of 54 traps. The first being at a small shack near the water's edge. opened door to shack - saw 3 Peromyscus. The traps line ran from bottom shack to shack about 200 yds. up hill and to the right about 50 yds. into a cactus clump. While setting these traps it became dark - so re-ran line three times while waiting for boat. - Caught 15 mice before going back to boat. At the top of the hill is another cabin beside which is an old 2 foot cistern. In this are about 15 dead White-crowned Sparrows. They seemed to have been unable to get out of the cistern - in spite of there being several boards in it for them to land upon. Tonight I ~~skinned~~ a fox and Axil used it for lobster bait. Walker spotted a Petral flying about the boat while he was jack-lighting for fish - Green shot it. → It proved to be an Ashy Petrel.

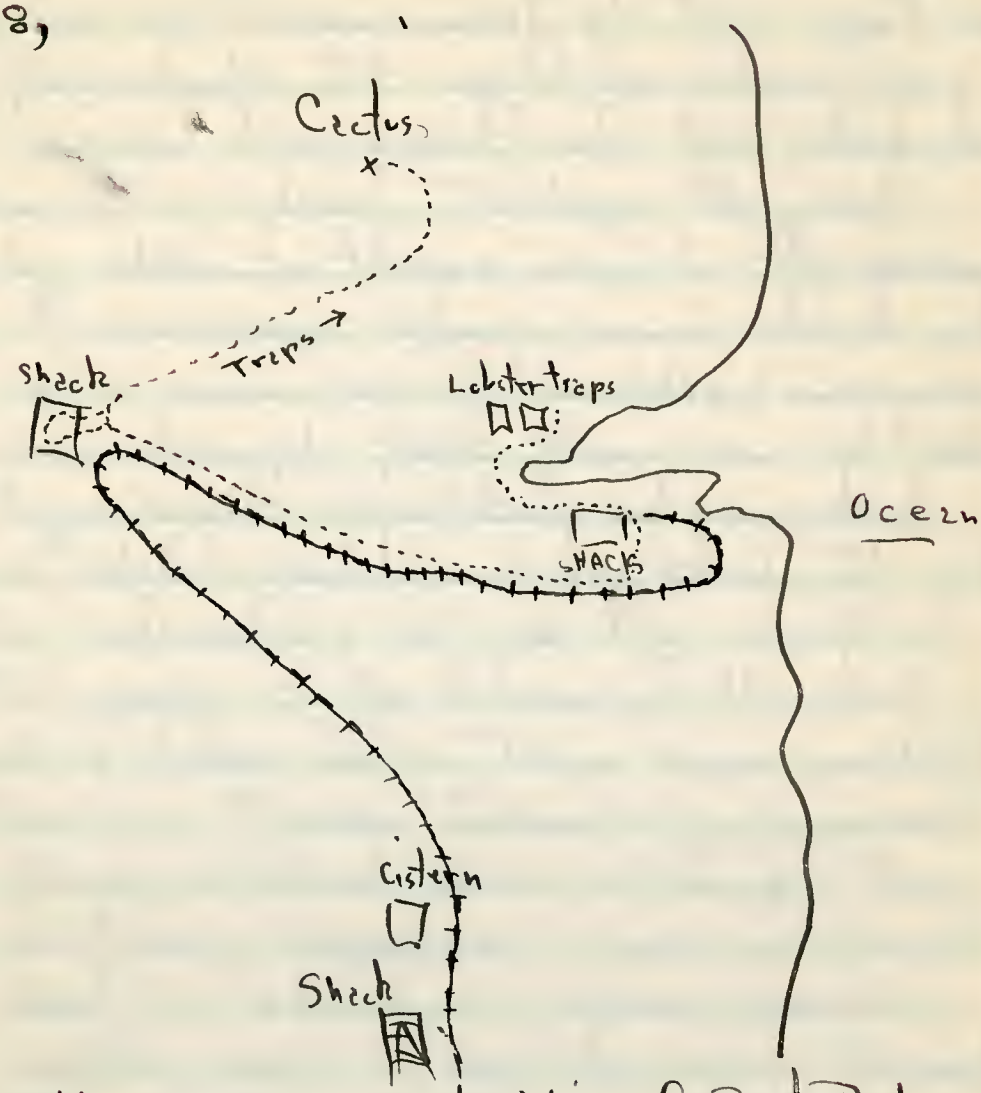


Santa Barbara Island
(From U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
Map — 1937 - "Pt. Dume to Point Pt")

Arnold
1938

Santa Barbara Island, Calif.

April 18,



Trap line on the east side of Santa Barbara Is.

San Nicolas Island, Calif.

April 19, This morning I had 24 Peromyscus in my traps. While going the rounds I saw a rabbit near the cistern on the top of the hill. It was quite tame — It was about ½ way between a jack-rabbit and a cottontail in size. In appearance it looked similar to a Belgian Hare. — Mack said that he saw

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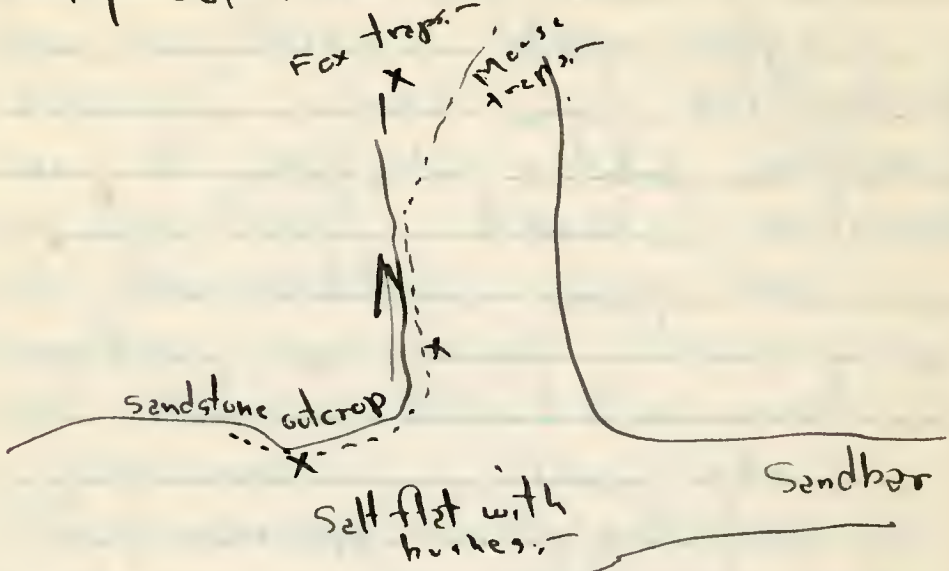
San Nicolas Island, Calif.

Ap. 19, two of them west of this spot on the island. It would be interesting to see the result of this introduction on this island. Perhaps they will be able to thrive due to the absence of enemies. Green saw a dead cat in a cave on the island — someone else claimed that they saw cat tracks. These would undoubtedly act as a check on the rabbit population of the island. It will be interesting to see the result of this upset of the balance of the island at a later date. This noon we left for San Nicolas Island. We arrived there at about four o'clock. Due to heavy breakers we could not land a skiff. — Consequently Walker and I had to swim through the breakers to the island. We were only able to take a few traps with us. I set out 25 mouse traps along the base of a sandstone outcropping while Walker made three fox sets. — There was much mouse sign and some fox sign around. We had quite a time swimming back to the boat as the

Arnold
1938

San Nicolas Island, Calif.

April 19, surf was quite heavy and the water very cold.—



(Spot shown on map of island)

April 20, Axil and I went ashore this morning to get the traps. I had 15 mice. The fox traps were unmolested. Picked up all the traps.— Later in the day we moved to the east side of the island. Everyone but me went ashore.— Lew + Tony set out the fox traps.— I skinned mice + got odds and ends finished up.—

Amated
1938

San Nicolas Island, Calif.

April 21, I went around to Tony's fox sets with him but he did not have anything. After helping Mac for a short while Balderback and I went for a hike northward on the beach. About ¼ mile north of the middens where Mac was working we found a large group of Pelicans Brant Cormorants and Gulls resting on the rocks.— They were apparently addicted to feeding in the kelpbeds just off shore.— We found a ½ grown Harbor Seal dead on the beach.— Saw much fox sign and some indian middens. We walked as far north as a barbedwire fence which ran to the waters edge.— On the way back we got 14 black abalones and a Black Turnstone. Just as I was starting back to ~~the boat, the captain set~~ traps the captain blew the whistle for us to come aboard as he was pulling anchor.— Consequently we did not get any mouse traps set.

Amo Col
1938

San Nicolas Island, Calif.

April 22 — Went around to Walker's traps with him. — He had one ♂ fox in a trap in a dry wash. There was sign of other foxes around some of the other traps. I went around with Tony to his traps. He had 3 foxes. — Two in traps near the upper level of the canyons and one at the mouth of a large canyon. The foxes seem to be widely distributed — both in the higher regions of the island and along the sandy beach. As we had no mouse traps out we caught no Peromyscus. On April 20 — on this island Rogers dug a complete dog skull and one lower mandible of a sea otter out of an old Indian midden. According to him many dog and otter skulls have been found — Rogers has a number of each at the San Diego museum. There must have been a very interesting correlation between the dogs-foxes & Indians of the island. According to Rogers the fox bones found in the middens are often charred — as if the fox had been used for food — while the dog bones are never charred. Rogers also claims to have other bird and mammal bones from

Arnold
1938

San Nicolas Island, Calif.

Apr. 22. the island in store at the S.D. museum. The boat had to pull anchor at about 4 oclock — they left me food and a sleeping bag to sleep on the island. I set out a line of mouse traps and checked the steels.— There was quite a wind and was quite cold.

Apr. 23. Picked up mouse & fox sets. Had one fox near where Walker caught fox yesterday. Was in trap he had set about 100 yds. west of one caught yesterday. The boat picked me up at about 6:30. They had had a bad night — boat dragged anchor and they had to cruize around most of the night. We started for Santa Barbara but due to weather & lack of time we did not stop but went straight to Catalina Harbor.—

* I forgot to mention that on the morning of the 22 we saw a ± 20 ft. whale of the sand spit on the SE end of the island (San Nicolas) according to Walker & Green it was probably a sperm whale — due to the bumps on back instead of fin and the position of the blow hole near the anterior end of the head. It was in fairly shallow water (about 4 or 5 fathoms.)

Cemola
1938

San Nicolas Island
(From U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Map — 1937 — "Pt. Dume to Purisima Point")

119°-40'

Names of places + information as to topography etc from Malcolm Rogers of S.D. Museum.

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Catalina Harbor, Catalina Island, Calif.

Apr. 23, We arrived at Catalina Harbor at about one o'clock. After eating we set out fox and mouse traps.— Tony set 10 sets along the ridge where we got foxes the time before while Walker set 10 sets along the high ridge to the west.— Bilderback and I, after working on specimens most of the afternoon set out 40 mouse traps in the canyon where we caught Peromyscus on the previous visit. Tonight we tried to net some flying fish for bait. In all we managed to catch four.— after much protest about fish scales on the — deck.—

April 24, Tony had three foxes in his traps but some fishermen's children evidentally stole one out of one of the lower traps.— Walker caught one black cat. In the mouse traps we had one Peromyscus.— I can not understand why there are not more mice in such a seemingly favorable location. Every trap was set in a location that should under normal mainland conditions yield Peromyscus of one kind or another.— Spent day preparing foxes + squirrels. Caught two adult ground squirrels.— Walker caught one.— While looking at traps I saw two very young squirrels outside of a hole.— I ran after them and caught one ♀.— We kept this alive for a while before preparing it as a specimen.

Arnold 1938 Catalina Harbor, Catalina Island, Calif.

April 24, It rained off and on most of the afternoon. Norman and I set out 60 mouse traps around the cove, around the house + barn at the east end of the cove, and up a small canyon on the south side of the cove. — i.e.

On the way home we saw a Marbled Godwit — the first I have seen on this island.

April 25, This morning while going to the traps it rained + hailed. — We had three Peromyscus in the traps. — One under the house, one in the outhouse and one in the barn. — In the 30 traps set on the south side of the cove we had nothing. — The rain undoubtedly had an effect on our catch but evidentally the mice were not abundant, or we would have had better luck. — I still wonder what the great controling factor is. Norman + I picked up a dead loon (Prob. a Pacific Loon) at the

Arnold
1938

Santa Catalina Island
(From U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Map-1937-"San Diego to Santa Rosa Island")

Arnold
1938

Catalina Harbor, Catalina Island, Calif.

April 25, east end of the harbor.— It had probably been shot by the fishermen's "kids" who had been shooting everything in sight yesterday. It is peculiar how one has to go to so much trouble to get permits to shoot on the island when others can come and shoot anything at any time without opposition.— Tony had one more fox in his traps.— The squirrel traps yielded nothing. We have 10 Catalina Island Ground Squirrels at present. Sailed at about eight o'clock for the Isthmus to get water for ship. Fished for perch with popcorn — did not catch any.— Went to Avalon.— Worked on skins & notes.— Saw sealion sitting on bouy.— Got within 20 feet of it with boat.—

April 26, Left at six o'clock for Santa Cruz Island. Had rough trip. Anchored ~~off~~ ~~Scub~~ in Smugglers Cove on that island. Saw a number of Petrels, Sherewaters, Cormorants and Pelicans. Rogers claimed to have seen some Blackfish. Saw several shark fins above the water off Anacapa Island.— Tony shot a Murrelet but we were unable to find it upon returning to the location. Could not go ashore on Santa Cruz because of lack of permits from owners.— Will leave for San Miguel tomorrow morning early.—

Arnold
1938

San Miguel Island, California

April 27, Left Santa Cruz Island at about six o'clock A.M. – En route we saw the usual sea birds. One large flock of Phalaropes sighted ½ way between Santa Cruz + San Miguel Island. – Could not tell species. – Saw two Bald Eagles on west end of Santa Rosa Island. We are now anchored just inside of Prince Island in Cuyler's harbor. – This afternoon we saw 18 or 20 White-winged Scoters near the boat. Bilderback and I set out a line of 12 fox sets on the island and 20 mouse traps. – There were quite a few fox tracks in the sand along the bottoms of the bluffs and in sheltered places. – Probably any other tracks were obliterated by the wind. The following is a purely diagrametic sketch showing the major land features where the individual settings were made.

Cuyler Harbor, San Miguel Island California
1938

April 27, This evening Tony invited Mr. Herb Lester a fellow who has been living on the island for 40 years to have dinner with us on the boat. He told a lot of interesting information about the island.

April 28, This morning we had three Peromyscus and Two foxes — in #7 + #13 traps. - The fox seem more pugnatious on this island then on the other two visited. The one in #13 was the first that really put up a battle after being caught. - After running the trap line and chasing insects we went over to Mr. Lester's house. He was not at home but his wife took quite an interest in us. She seems to be quite an intelligent sort of a person and was much interested in raising her children scientifically and to their best advantage in spite of their isolated environment. She seems to be doing a very good job at it.

April 29, Had 13 mice in traps Norman set along beach and cliff. - Found human bones in midden just above pier. - Are going to the Lesters for dinner - Hope to get some early dope on ecology of island — as stated by him. The fox of the island seem to keep to the lower "U" shaped canyons along the upper levels of the islands and to the cliffs along the shore. Yesterday Norman and I hunted for pellets in Lesters barn - none found. Mrs. Lester said owl had long ears - can not tell much from what these people have to say concerning identification of species - but

Arnold
1938

Cuyler Harbor, San Miguel Island, Calif.

April 29 can tell some of the major changes of island by their reports.- Tony went out to Prince Island yesterday to hunt birds. He claimed that meny are sterting to nest out there. He shot some Pigeon Gillimonts; 1 Baird Cormorants; Cassin Auklets. He found an eagles nest with one fledgeling in it. Walker is going out today to take pictures. Yesterday Lew Walker went out to the west end of the island on horseback with Mr. Lester. He saw two foxes in daylight and a herd of 60 or 70 Steller Sealions.-

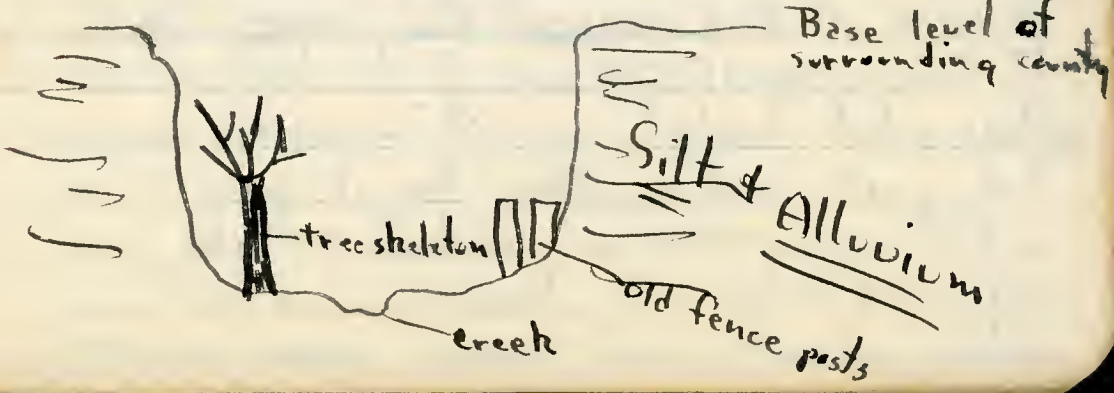
The Ravens of the island are all paired up.- Walker saw a nest on the east cliff of the island (Near where Ralph Hoffmen was killed)

Wildflowers are very plentiful on the upper levels of the island. They are in full bloom at present and Bilderback has collected a good representative group to take back. Horned Larks are abundant on the upper levels. I would estimate about one pair for every three acres on the average. Have seen a number of Rock Wrens. They are much tamer then those found on San Nicolas. Saw a Song Sparrow feeding young yesterday. Had a yellow abdomened fly in its bill. Fishing is very poor around the boat and Prince Island according to Axil - one of the crew I had no foxes in the steel sets. Those which had fox yesterday had no tracks around them while two of

Arnold
1938

Cuyler's Harbor, San Miguel Is., Calif.

April 29, of the others had adjacent tracks. After looking at my traps I walked over to Harris Point. Frightened an eagle from a ledge near the point but there was no nest. Saw cove where the Bounty (ship of film Mutiny on the Bounty) was wrecked. Caught two Alligator Lizards near top. Went to the Lesters for dinner. Mr. Lester told me the history of the rabbits on Santa Barbara Island. A sheep man introduced them there sometime in the early twenties (1920's) for food. They are Belgian Hares. Last year the man that introduced them was killed off San Nicolas Island when the boat he was in capsized. At present there are supposed to be quite a few on the island. Mr. Lester showed us a portion of an elephant tusk he found on the island — It seems a number have been shipped to some museum — they are a pigmy form of the ancient mainland species. He told of an oil seepage at the west end of the island. After dinner he took us to an eroded gulch where three old stumps of trees were standing. the base level of the surrounding soil at present is about 15 feet above the bottom of the trees.



Arnold 1938 Cuyler's Harbor, San Miguel Is., Calif.

April 29, It seems that the level where the creek is was at one time (prob. around 1900 or before) the base level. In recent years (not within the last 10) the alluvium from the higher lands has flooded over and filled in about 15 feet above the former level.— The trees, fenceposts and an old well frame were completely covered — and remained so until the last few years when heavy rains washed out the gully to the present condition. According to Lester, a certain man named John Russell lived here in about 1900–1920 — pictures of Russells house + farm show trees. Perhaps these are ones around his farm. From the amount of sedimentation, however, I would say that these were before that time. Lester claims that primitively this island was covered with brush + some trees (he has heard) In the early days it was overgrazed by a Scotchman and the sheep killed off many of the plants in a series of dry years. The denudation of plants caused erosion and eventually drifting sand — consequently the condition of the island today. — This is not proven date however but is merely as he told it to me. Tony set out 35 mouse traps on Prince Island today. Walker is trying to get eagle pictures. Tony shot an Oyster Catcher in the wing today on Prince Island and brought it back alive. There were some Scaup Ducks, Golden-

Arnold
1938

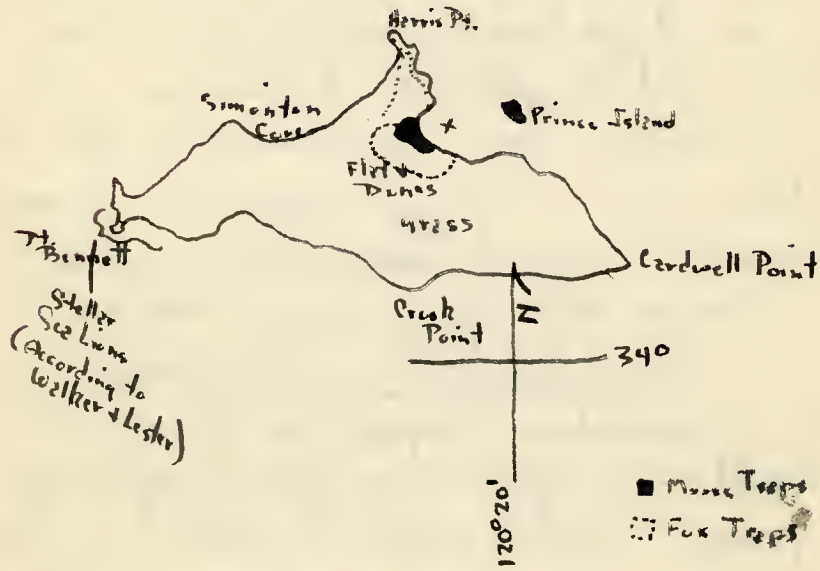
Cuyler's Harbor, San Miguel Is., Calif.

April 29, eyes and Surf Scoters seen from the yacht today. Put up six Peromyscus this evening

April 30, It rained most of the morning and the wind is starting to blow. Tony + Walker went over to Prince Island. Tony got the mouse traps. — Had 15 mice in 24 traps. He claims they are quite abundant on the island. Put up ten of the mice - they appear to be the same as those on ~~the~~ San Miguel Is. I did not have any fox in the traps. - The rain may have had something to do with the poor luck - but who knows?

~~April~~ May 1, Reset four of the fox sets near the east point of the island. All the sets were in wet sand in good locations but the wind is blowing so much that ~~we~~ I have my doubts as to the luck. According to Lester this wind keeps up for days on end. Last ~~winter~~ spring it lasted 28 days without letting up. - Because of the surf + wind we had to land in a cove about 300 yds north of the old pier. Had quite a time getting back to the boat in the wind. The ground swells are very big.

Arnold
1938



San Miguel Island
(from U.S. Coast Geodetic Survey
Map - 1937 - "Pt. Dume to
Purisima Pt.)

Arnold
1938

Cuyler's Harbor, San Miguel Is., Calif.

May 2, Could not go ashore as the wind is blowing a gale + the captain will not lower a boat in it. The water is very choppy and a good sized ground swell is running.

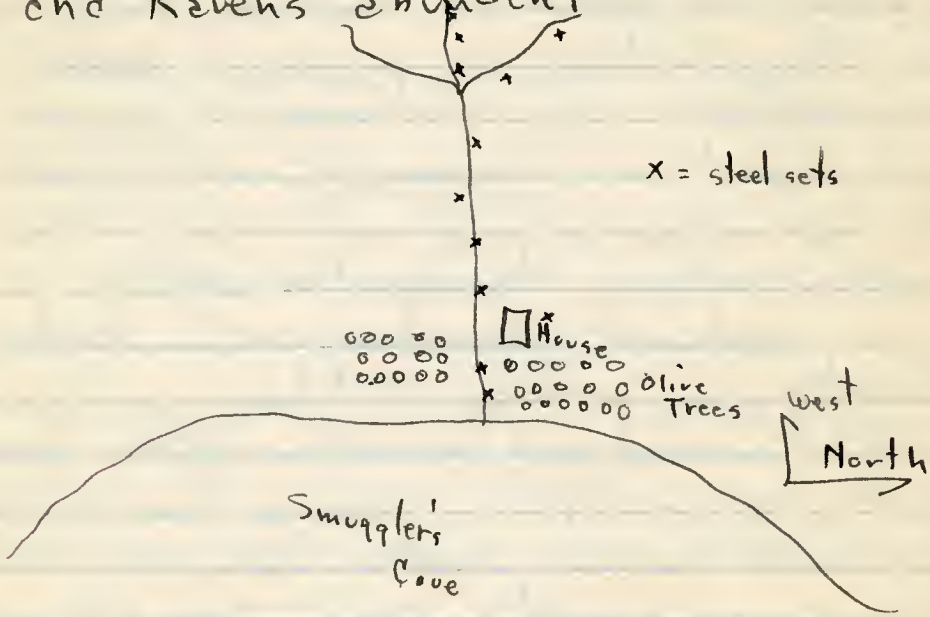
May 3, Walker and I went ashore to pick up traps and camera. The wind was still strong but the water had calmed down somewhat. Had one of Urocyon in a trap on the top of the island. I believe that with such a wind it is difficult for animals to smell the scent of the bait. We left for Santa Cruz Island shortly after returning to the boat. There was quite a wind but due to it coming from the NW we were able to make good time. Several times the water came over the side of the boat.

May 4 – Santa Cruz Island, Calif.

Four of us went ashore to look over the Island and set traps. Walker and I set out all of the steel traps up the main canyon running in front of an old abandoned farm house. The Island is very hilly. — The canyons having almost perpendicular walls. The farm house is on the only level piece of ground. A considerable grove of olive trees is on both hillsides of the mouth of the canyon. There was a dead pig (very dead) in the stream bed. We did not see any sign of Spilogale but did

Arnold 1938 ~~Cuyler's~~ Smuggler's Cove, Santa Cruz Is., Calif.

May 4, see considerable evidence of Urocyon
Bilderbach set out the mouse traps
along the sides of the canyon. We
saw one Santa Cruz Jay in the
olive grove at the mouth of the
canyon. Rock Wrens are numerous
and Ravens abundant



The steel sets are shown as per above.—
In the three canyons branching at
the west we found tanks with water
in them. At the junction we found
five indian mortar bowls in one granite
boulder. There was also a large tank
in the mouth of the small canyon going
to the west. Caught 2 hylas in the pond.
Directly above the pond is a large hole—
going back and up into the wall of
the canyon.— Walker & I frightened
two barn owls from a nest at the
upper end.— Walker saw eggs in it.

Amold 1938 Smuggler's Cove, Santa Cruz Is., Calif.

May 4, There was a large deposit of bat guano at the mouth of the cave. The droppings were fairly large (possibly "Mexican Free-tails"). The "sign" was old, however, and was undoubtedly last summers.

May 5, Went ashore to traps in heavy wind. Three Urocyon in Walker's sets. Very similar to mainland fox. Bilderbach had three Peromyscus in traps. Lew and I saw two Greater-yellow legs. This is a rather infrequent visitor to the island. Encountered trouble in reaching yacht & getting equipment and stuff aboard because of the wind and waves. Captain very excited about the whole affair. Wind blew hard day & night. Capt. claimed-worse he had ever seen in these parts.

May 6 Went ashore at daylight. Calm water — no wind. Had two foxes — ♂ & ♀. Mouse traps had five mice in them. I ♂-3♀. Tony shot two Jays at junction of canyons where owl nest is located. Walker climbed up to nest in tree. Nest new with no eggs as yet. Yesterday I picked up an old Urocyon skull that had been thrown out by the ranch hands after catching it in a trap. We saw a ranch hand at the farm house. He seemed very friendly. Telling us about the abundance of fox.

Ventura Cal. — Smugglers Cove, Santa Cruz Is., Calif.
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May 6; Went back to the ship. On way we saw a large ♀ Stellar Sea lion on the rocks. It was evidentally sick as its eyes were shut and its mouth was mattery. Very calm weather going back to boat. We left for Anacapa as soon as we returned.— Many Sherewaters and Phalaropes seen. Tony & Lew went ashore on Anacapa. They captured some (3) murrelets in nest holes. Started for home about four o'clock.— Going to go straight through without any stop.—

May 8, Calm weather. Saw a Sooty Albatross ~~of~~ about opposite Del Mar. Arrived home at Yacht club a little after nine o'clock. — Trip over.